2. With the inauguration of the Scheme at Delhi and Kanpur on the 24th of February, 1952, by the Prime Minister, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation has commenced to administer in these two places the benefit provisions of the Scheme. The Scheme will be extended in its full operation in the principal zones of the country before the end of 1954. Simultaneously from the above-mentioned date, *viz.*, the 24th February, 1952, the provisions relating to Employer's Special Contribution payable by Employers in the country have been brought into force in all the other Part 'A', Part 'B' and Part 'C' States except in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

3. The Act applies to all fectories using power and employing 20 or more persons. "Seasonal" factories as defined in the Employees' State Insurauce Act, 1948 and mines subject to the Indian Mines Act are excluded from the scope of the Act. In any factory, employees whether temporary, permanent or casual and clerical and supervisory staff except those drawing a remuneration exceeding Rs. 400 per month come under the purview of the Scheme. Also, persons in the Armed Forces do not come within the scope of the Act.

4. To administer the provisions of the Act, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation has been set up under the Act with effect from October, 1948. The Corporation which is a statutory and an autonomous body functions with its Head Office in New Delhi. It is a quasi-Government organisation under the control of the Ministry of Labour, Government of India. The Corporation has also set up five Regional Offices in the country, one each in Madras, Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Kanpur. The Regional Offices organise the collection of the Employer's Special Contribution and also undertake the spade work necessary before the benefit provisions of the Act could be brought into force in their respective areas.

AT KANPUR AND DELHI.

5. At Kanpur and Delhi, where the Scheme has been inaugurated, all employees pay, from the date of the inauguration, a rate of contribution roughly of about 2¼ per cent of their wages. Their employers contribute, with effect from the same date, 1¼ per cent of their wage roll. The insured persons under the Scheme are entitled to free medical treatment and, besides, a cash benefit of roughly 7/12ths (seven-twelfths) of their wages in cases of sickness, maternity and disablement. If an insured person happens to die as a result of the employment injury, his dependents, *i.e.*, the widow and minor legitimate or adopted sons and minor legitimate unmarried daughters, receive, under the Scheme, Dependents' Benefit. The Scheme provides also for payment of cash benefit to other dependents if no widow or legitimate child is left behind. The Corporation has taken over from the employers, *in respect of employees covered by the Scheme*, the employer's liabilities under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Maternity Benefit Act, subject to the conditions specified in the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948.

IN ALL OTHER PART 'A', PART 'B' AND PART 'C' STATES OTHER THAN JAMMU AND KASHMIR".

With effect from the 24th of February, 1952, mployers" are to contribute at the rate of three-fourth cent of the wage roll of their "Employees". The compave lower percentage of the contribution is due to the that, in these areas, the employers will continue to meet r liabilities under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 3, and the Maternity Benefit Act. This contribution ed the Employer's Special Contribution is payable in ject of each quarter ending on the 31st of March, 30th une, 30th of September and 31st of December. The ributions have to be paid within thirty days of the last of the quarter in respect of which such contribution is . In addition to this, every employer has to submit Regional Office within 45 days of the close of the a return in a form (Form SC-2) specifically providrefor by the Corporation. These contributions d to the rupee should be paid into any branch of the al Bank of India.

All "Employers" in the State of Mysore are under ion to pay the Employer's Special Contribution as laid down in the preceding paragraph. For this purpose, the Madras Regional Office of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation is the proper authority in respect of employers situated in the Mysore State. The *benefit* provisions of the scheme are expected to commence in the Mysore State with effect from some time in 1953. Until such date, the employers in Mysore should continue to pay three-fourth per cent as Employer's Special Contribution as specified in the preceding paragraphs. No contribution is payable by the "*employees*" during such period and nor are the employees entitled to any benefits under the scheme. Until the full scheme is brought into force as already stated some time in 1953, the employers in the Mysore State would have to continue their existing arrangements both as regards their liabilities under the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Maternity Benefit Act. When once the full scheme is implemented in the State, the employers and employees in the Mysore State would be placed on a par with the employers and employees in Kanpur and Delhi.

8. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that some employers in the State have not been paying the contributions for the simple reason that the Act has not been enforced by the State Government. This view is not correct as the Employees' State Insurance Scheme is a scheme that should be enforced by the Central Government. As such, the scheme to the extent stated above is already in force in the State and any employer in the Mysore State who does not comply with the requirements thereof, is likely to expose himself to the penalties provided therefor in the Employees' State Insurance Act itself. However, for the information of the employers of Mysore, the State Government would publish, as far as possible, all relevant notifications that may be issued by the Central Government and the Corporation by virtue of the powers conferred on them by the Act, as and when they are issued.

(P. N. No. 87–8-8-1952).

Press Note.

Low Storage in Krishnarajasagar—August, 1952.

There has been an unprecedented failure in the South-West Monsoon this year with the result that the water level in Krishnarajasagar has gone down to 86'29 or only 14¼ ft. above the F.SL. of Visvesvaraya Canal. This level is the very lowest on record ever since water was allowed for Irrigation under the Reservoir. The net available storage at present above +60, the bed level of the Visvesvaraya Canal, is only about 9,500 M.C.ft as against 44,000 M.C.ft. when the lake is full.

From a study of the figures for impounding from July to October during the last 20 years, it is seen that the possibilities of further receipts into the Reservoir in the coming months are not encouraging. This is an unexpected situation and it requires the fullest co-operation of and sacrifice on the part of the raiyats in the Visvesvaraya Canal area to tide over the situation and it is hoped that they will rise to the occasion.

The available water will at the most be sufficient for about 30.000 acres out of the programmed area of about 85,000 acres. The raiyats are requested to extend their co-operation in making the most judicious use of the available water.

(P. N. No. 88—8-8-1952).

Press Note.

Working of the Employment Exchange during July 1952.

The Employment Exchange, No. 3, Lady Curzon Road, Civil Station, Bangalore, registered 1,425 persons during the month of July 1952, of whom 248 were Ex-service personnel, 54 women and 1,123 others. The number of vacancies reported from the Central Government Departments and State Government Departments was 38 and from private employers 10, thus bringing the total to 48.

Two hundred and thirty persons (54 Ex-service personnel and 176 others) were referred to employers against the reported vacancies.

Forty-six persons were placed in employment during the month as against 83 in the previous month. Of those placed, 13 were Ex-service personnel and 32 others and one woman applicant.